JOHN KNIGHT Route 6 North Eastham, MA 02651 and DONNA RUSSELL KNIGHT D/B/A/ THE GLASS EYE GALLERY Route 6 North Eastham, MA 02651 and CHARLES COLE 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 and COUNTRY GLASS SHOP 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 Plaintiffs V. CHRISTMAS TREE SHOPS, INC. Serve: Charles G. Bilezikian 88 Mill Lane Yarmouthport, MA 02675 Defendant	UNITED STATES FOR THE DISTRICT (DISTRICT COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
DONNA RUSSELL KNIGHT D/B/A/ THE GLASS EYE GALLERY Route 6 North Eastham, MA 02651 and CHARLES COLE 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 and COUNTRY GLASS SHOP 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 Plaintiffs V. CHRISTMAS TREE SHOPS, INC. Serve: Charles G. Bilezikian 88 Mill Lane Yarmouthport, MA 02675	Route 6) } }
D/B/A/ THE GLASS EYE GALLERY Route 6 North Eastham, MA 02651 and CHARLES COLE 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 and VIIU NIILER 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 and COUNTRY GLASS SHOP 784 Pike Road Marshfield, VT 05658 Plaintiffs V. CHRISTMAS TREE SHOPS, INC. Serve: Charles G. Bilezikian 88 Mill Lane Yarmouthport, MA 02675 O 4 12698 JLT RECEIPT # AMOUNT \$ SUMMONS ISSUED LOCAL RULE 4.1 WAIVER FORM MCF ISSUED BY DPTY. CLK RAP CASE NO. MAGISTRATE JUDGE MAGISTRATE JUDGE MAGISTRATE JUDGE	and	
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Defendant)	v. CHRISTMAS TREE SHOPS, INC. Serve: Charles G. Bilezikian 88 Mill Lane	
	Defendant))

COMPLAINT FOR COMPENSATORY, INJUNCTIVE AND PUNITIVE RELIEF; JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

ı.

Nature of the Case

1. This is an action for trade dress infringement, unfair competition and violations of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO).

II.

Jurisdiction

2. Jurisdiction is conferred on this court by 28 U.S.C. §1331 (federal questions), §1337 (copyrights) and 18 U.S.C. §1964 (RICO).

ĦI.

Parties

- 3. John Knight is a resident of the State of Massachusetts.
- 4. Donna Russell Knight is the sole proprietor of The Glass Eye Gallery.
- 5. Charles Cole and Viiu Niiler are residents of the States of Vermont. Together they own and operate the Country Glass Shop as a partnership.
 - 6. Christmas Tree Shops, Inc. is a Massachusetts Corporation.

IV.

Factual Allegations

- 7. Christmas Tree Shops, Inc. is in the business of copying the work of others, particularly crafts makers in New England, and has the imitations made in China and selling the products for a small fraction of the original price.
- John Knight designed and makes by hand a wall sconce that was copied by
 Christmas Tree Shops, Inc. Christmas Tree Shops sells the infringing wall sconce as EJD418and 000013-59565-4.
- Donna Russell Knight operates The Glass Eye Gallery on Cape Cod. She sells John Knight's glass creations as well as those by others including glass products made by Country Glass Shop.
- 10. Charles Cole and Vii Niiler design and make glass products in Vermont. They designed a blue glass dish with a Nantucket basket of hydrangea. Christmas Tree Shops, Inc. copied this work in China and sells it for \$1.69 under product number EAN 1474, 000013601904.
- 11. All of plaintiffs' products, and all parts thereof, are made in the United States of America.

- 12. Without the consent or approval of plaintiffs, the defendant wrongfully and willfully misappropriated, sold and distributed unauthorized imported duplications of the plaintiffs' work.
- 13. Defendant had the infringing products made for it in China by workers who are not paid decent wages, workers who live under slave-like conditions, by employees of the People's Liberation Army and by prison workers.
- 14. Defendant's misappropriation of plaintiffs' designs and products constitute an unfair act and unfair method of competition as well as theft.

٧.

First Cause of Action: Violations of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act (Trade Dress)

- 15. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs one through 14, inclusive.
- 16. John Knight's sconce has the following characteristics:
 - a. Size;
 - b. Shape;
 - c. Made with opalescent glass;
 - d. Includes textured soldering on a metal frame;
 - e. Hanging ring;
 - f. Uses three pieces of glass of unique shapes.
- 17. The Country Glass Shop has the following characteristics to the trade dress of its grape plate:
 - a. Size (approximately 8 % inches in diameter):
 - b. Color (cobalt blue);
 - c. Design of hydrangea in a Nantucket basket;
 - d. Single hole at top for hanging;
 - e. Texture.
- 18. Plaintiffs' products have secondary meaning. Consumers and retail stores recognize the plaintiffs as the source of products that have been copied by defendant.

- 19. Defendant's copies of plaintiffs' products causes confusion to consumers and retailers and constitutes a violation of Section 43(a) of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 1125(a).
- 20. As a direct and proximate result of this infringement, plaintiffs have suffered injury to their reputation and a loss of income.

VI.

Second Cause of Action: Unfair Competition

- 21. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference paragraphs one through 20, inclusive.
- 22. Without the consent or approval of plaintiffs, defendant wrongfully misappropriated, sold and distributed unauthorized duplications of the plaintiffs' designs.
- 23. Defendant's copies are inferior to plaintiffs' work in craftsmanship and appearance, but have virtually identical shapes and designs to plaintiffs' designs.
- 24. Stores selling plaintiffs' designs, and consumers, have been confused by defendant's products, believing that the plaintiffs were the source of the illegal copies.
- 25. As a direct and proximate result of this unauthorized copying, plaintiffs have suffered injury to its reputation and a loss of income.

VII.

Third Cause of Action: For Violations Of Sections 1962(c) And (d) Of RICO

- 26. Plaintiffs restate and incorporate herein by reference ¶¶1-25 of this complaint.
- 27. This claim arises under §1964(c) of RICO and plaintiffs seek to recover actual and treble damages based upon defendant violations of 18 U.S.C. §1962(c)-(d), as described more fully below.
- 28. At all times relevant hereto, the plaintiffs and the defendant constituted a "person" within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §1961(3).
- 29. Defendant is engaged in interstate acts of commerce and the acts alleged herein have a demonstrable effect on interstate commerce.
 - 30. Section 1961(4) of RICO defines the term "enterprise" to include "any individual,

partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity, and any union or group of individuals associated in fact although not a legal entity." 18 U.S.C. §1961(4).

31. At all times relevant hereto, pursuant to the numerous agreements that were negotiated and executed between the defendant and Chinese suppliers as well as through their course of conduct, the defendant and Chinese suppliers have formed a series of association-infact enterprises within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. §1961(4) for the purpose of committing numerous acts of racketeering activity, including importation of products made by slave and prison labor in violation of 19 U.S.C. §1307. These enterprises are identified as follows:

the Peoples Liberation Army of China (PLA):

Departments of the Government of the People's Republic of China; and other Chinese suppliers.

- 32. Defendant has engaged in a pattern of racketeering activity, as defined in §1961(5) of RICO, by committing and/or aiding and abetting at least two such acts of racketeering activity within the past 10 years. Each such act of racketeering activity was related, had similar purposes, involved the same or similar participants and methods of commission, and had similar results impacting upon similar victims, including plaintiffs.
- 33. Defendant has stolen the copyrights and trade dress rights of the Cheryl Hannant and the Candle Factory.
- 34. Defendant has stolen from Stained Glass Designs the copyright and trade dress rights.
- 35. Defendant has stolen the copyrights and trade dress rights of many other crafts makers.
- 36. Section 1961(1) of RICO provides that a "person" commits and act of "racketeering activity" by engaging in (a) "any act or threat involving ... robbery ... which is chargeable under State law and punishable by imprisonment for more than one year," 18 U.S.C. §1961(1)(A), and/or (b) "any act which is indictable under" any of a number of provisions of Title 18, U.S. Code, 18 U.S.C. §1961(1)(B).

- 37. Defendant has either engaged in and/or aided and abetted predicate acts of racketeering activity in violation of state and federal law.
- 38. In addition to the defendant's acts as alleged herein, it also committed the following predicate acts:
 - (a) Theft, ("A person commits the offense of theft if he or she unlawfully takes, uses or consumes the property or services of another with intent to permanently deprive the owner of his or her rights to the property or services."). As alleged herein, the defendant and/or its agents took and used the copyrights and trademarks of plaintiffs with the intent to permanently deprive them of remuneration for those services.
 - (b) Theft of Services, ("A person commits theft if he or she purposely obtains services which the person knows are available only for compensation, by deception or threat, or by false token or other means to avoid payment for the service."). As alleged herein, the defendant and/or its agents purposely obtained the services of plaintiffs which the defendant and/or its agents knew were available only for fair compensation by deception or by other means of avoiding payment.
 - (c) Receiving Stolen Property, ("A person commits theft if he or she purposely receives, retains, or disposes of property of another knowing that it has been stolen, or having reasonable cause to believe under all of the circumstances that it has probably been stolen"). As alleged herein, the defendant and/or its agents knowingly received the stolen services of plaintiffs.
 - (d) Copyright Infringement.
- 39. By either knowingly, recklessly disregarding or reasonably being in a position to know the facts underlying the acts of racketeering activity as described above committed by the defendant and/or its agents, but neither preventing nor reporting said conduct and, in fact, profiting thereby.
 - 40. The multiple acts of racketeering activity committed and/or aided and abetted by

defendant, as described above, were related to each other and amounted to or posed a threat of continued racketeering activity, and, therefore, constitute a "pattern of racketeering activity," as defined in 18 U.S.C. §1961(5).

- 41. In violation of 18 U.S.C. §1962(c), the defendant conducted or participated, either directly or indirectly, in the conduct of each of the above-referenced enterprises' affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity, as described above.
- 42. Defendant, and its co-conspirators, who are not named in this laim, agreed and conspired amongst each other to conduct or participated, directly or indirectly, in the conduct of the above-referenced enterprises' affairs through a pattern of racketeering activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. §1962(d).
- 43. As a direct and proximate result of defendant's violations of 18 U.S.C. §§1962(c) and (d), plaintiffs have been injured in their business or property. Pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1964(c), plaintiffs are entitled to bring this action and to recover herein actual and treble damages, the costs of bringing this suit and attorneys' fees.
- 44. Defendant's violations of the federal and state law detailed above and the effects thereof are continuing and will continue unless injunctive relief prohibiting defendant's illegal activities is granted. Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm and may have no adequate remedy at law.

VIII.

Fourth Cause of Action Violations Of Sections 1962(a) And (d) Of RICO

- 45. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference ¶¶1-44 of this complaint.
- 46. This claim for relief arises under §1964(c) of RICO and seeks to recover actual and treble damages based on defendant's violations of §1962(a) and (d) of RICO.
- 47. In violation of §1962(a) and (d) of RICO, defendant conspired to derive, and did derive, substantial proceeds through the above-described pattern of racketeering activity and conspired to use or invest, and used or invested, such proceeds in the operation of the association-in-fact enterprises detailed in above.

- 48. As a direct and proximate result of defendant's violations of §1962(a) and (d) of RICO, plaintiffs have been injured in their business or property. Pursuant to §1964(c) of RICO, plaintiffs are entitled to bring this action and to recover herein actual and treble damages, the costs of bringing this suit and attorneys' fees.
- 49. Defendant's violations of the federal and state law detailed above, and the effects thereof are continuing and will continue unless injunctive relief prohibiting plaintiff's illegal activities is granted. Plaintiffs will suffer irreparable harm and may have no adequate remedy at law.
- 50. Defendant committed the acts alleged herein maliciously, fraudulently and oppressively with the wrongful intention of injuring plaintiffs, in an improper motive amounting to malice, in conscious disregard of plaintiffs' rights. Plaintiffs are thus also entitled to recover exemplary damages from defendant in an amount to be established at trial but relating to the total monies obtained by defendant as a result of their participation in this illegal and oppressive scheme.

IX.

Fifth Cause of Action: For Declaratory And Injunctive Relief

- 51. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference ¶¶1-50 of this complaint.
- 52. Based upon the facts alleged above, there is the existence of an actual controversy relating to the legal rights and duties of the respective parties.
- 53. Plaintiffs have performed all promises, covenants and conditions required on their part to be performed.
- 54. Accordingly, plaintiffs request that the following judicial declarations, determinations and/or injunctive relief either be granted or made with regard to the rights of plaintiffs and the responsibilities of plaintiff.
- 55. Absent issuance of such an order, plaintiffs will be irreparably harmed and do not possess an adequate remedy at law.

X.

Prayer for Relief

WHEREFORE, plaintiffs respectfully pray that this Court

- A. Grant temporary, preliminary and/or permanent injunction enjoining and restraining plaintiff from continuing the practices set forth above, including enjoining defendant's sale and distribution of copies of plaintiffs' copyrighted and trademarked goods:
- B. Order defendant to cease and desist from selling, displaying, distributing and advertising the offending products during the pendency of this matter and permanently thereafter;
 - C. Seize from defendant all of the offending products;
- D. Exclude the offending products from the United States during the pendency of this matter and permanently thereafter:
 - E. Award compensatory and special damages of twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000.00);
 - F. Award treble damages sustained by plaintiffs for defendant's violations of RICO;
- G. Award punitive and exemplary damages of one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000.00)
 - H. Award pre- and post- judgment interest;
 - I. Award reasonable attorneys' fees and costs; and

J. Order such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiffs demand a trial by jury.

DANIEL E. CHAIKA, ESQUIRE

SJS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Title of case (name of first party on each side of Shops, Inc. Category in which the case belongs based up local rule 40.1(a)(1)). I. 160, 410, 470, R.23, REGARMAN, 790, 791, 820*, 830*, 811. III. 110, 120, 130, 140, 151, 153, 320, 330, 340, 345, 35380, 385, 450, 891. IV. 220, 422, 423, 430, 460, 51690, 810, 861-865, 870, 87 V. 150, 152, 153. Title and number, if any, of related cases. (See this district please indicate the title and number lates and number lates are parties as Does the complaint in this case question the case USC §2403) If so, is the U.S.A. or an officer, agent or employed.	on the numbered national state of the numbered national state	E OF SUIT. 25, 710, 720, 7 -894, 895, 950 45, 290, 310, 55, 370, 371, 30, 640, 650, 4 If more than ase in this country and act of congruence and act of	ode liste 30, 660, one priorit.	*Also co for pate	omplete AO ont, tradema case has be	120 or Ark or cop	O 121 oyright o
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Is this case required to be heard and determine	ed by a district cour	t of three lude	es durs	uant to tit	le 28 USC &:	22842	
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Do <u>all</u> of the parties in this action, excluding g Massachusetts ("governmental agencies"), re 40.1(d)).							e
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A. If yes, in which division do	all of the non-gove				***************************************		
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